JS 44 (Rev. 10/20)

Case 2:23-cv-00011 WRPLL POON ENT SHE 201/03/23 Page 1 of 15

The JS 44 civil cover sheet and the information contained herein neither replace nor supplement the filing and service of pleadings or other papers as required by law, except as provided by local rules of court. This form, approved by the Judicial Conference of the United States in September 1974, is required for the use of the Clerk of Court for the purpose of initiating the civil docket sheet. (SEE INSTRUCTIONS ON NEXT PAGE OF THIS FORM.)

	ocket sheet. (SEE INSTRUCTIONS ON NEXT PAGE			
I. (a) PLAINTIFFS		DEFENDANTS		
SARINA DABNEY		THOMAS JEFFERSON UNIVERSITY HOSPITAL		
(b) County of Residence of First Listed Plaintiff Philadelphia (EXCEPT IN U.S. PLAINTIFF CASES)		County of Residence of First Listed Defendant Philadelphia (IN U.S. PLAINTIFF CASES ONLY) NOTE: IN LAND CONDEMNATION CASES, USE THE LOCATION OF THE TRACT OF LAND INVOLVED.		
Mary Kramer; M	Address, and Telephone Number) urphy Law Group, LLC; 1628 John F Ste. 2000; 267-273-1054	Attorneys (If Known)		
II. BASIS OF JURISD	ICTION (Place an "X" in One Box Only)	III. CITIZENSHIP OF PE		
1 U.S. Government Plaintiff	(U.S. Government Not a Party)	(For Diversity Cases Only) P1 Citizen of This State	rf <u>de</u> f	
2 U.S. Government Defendant	4 Diversity (Indicate Citizenship of Parties in Item III)	Citizen of Another State	2 Incorporated and P of Business In A	nother State
		Citizen or Subject of a Foreign Country	3 Foreign Nation	66
IV. NATURE OF SUIT	(Place an "X" in One Box Only)		Click here for: Nature of S	uit Code Descriptions.
CONTRACT	TORTS	FORFEITURE/PENALTY	BANKRUPTCY	OTHER STATUTES
110 Insurance 120 Marine 130 Miller Act 140 Negotiable Instrument 150 Recovery of Overpayment & Enforcement of Judgment 151 Medicare Act 152 Recovery of Defaulted Student Loans (Excludes Veterans) 153 Recovery of Overpayment of Veteran's Benefits 160 Stockholders' Suits 190 Other Contract 195 Contract Product Liability 196 Franchise REAL PROPERTY 210 Land Condemnation 220 Foreclosure 230 Rent Lease & Ejectment 240 Torts to Land 245 Tort Product Liability 290 All Other Real Property	PERSONAL INJURY 310 Airplane 315 Airplane Product Liability 320 Assault, Libel & Slander 330 Federal Employers' Liability 340 Marine 345 Marine Product Liability 350 Motor Vehicle 355 Motor Vehicle Product Liability 368 Asbestos Personal Injury Product Liability 370 Other Fraud 371 Truth in Lending Personal Injury Personal Property Damage 385 Property Damage 386 Asbestos Personal Injury Product Liability 370 Other Fraud 371 Truth in Lending 370 Other Personal Property Damage 385 P	of Property 21 USC 881 690 Other To Pair Labor Standards Act To Labor/Management Relations To Relations To Railway Labor Act To Pamily and Medical Leave Act To Other Labor Litigation To Other Labor Litigation To Early Edition To Other Labor Litigation To Other Labor Litigatio	## 422 Appeal 28 USC 158 ## 423 Withdrawal ## 28 USC 157 PROPERTY RIGHTS	375 False Claims Act 376 Qui Tam (31 USC 3729(a)) 400 State Reapportionment 410 Antitrust 430 Banks and Banking 450 Commerce 460 Deportation 470 Racketeer Influenced and Corrupt Organizations 480 Consumer Credit (15 USC 1681 or 1692) 485 Telephone Consumer Protection Act 490 Cable/Sat TV 850 Securities/Commodities/ Exchange 890 Other Statutory Actions 891 Agricultural Acts 893 Environmental Matters 895 Freedom of Information Act 896 Arbitration 899 Administrative Procedure Act/Review or Appeal of Agency Decision 950 Constitutionality of State Statutes
V. ORIGIN (Place an "X" i	Confinement n One Box Only)			
1 Original 2 Rei	moved from the Court 3 Remanded from Appellate Court	4 Reinstated or 5 Transfer Reopened Another (specify	r District Litigation -	1 1
VI. CAUSE OF ACTIO	ON Cite the U.S. Civil Statute under which you a 42 U.S.C. § 12101, et seq. and 29 U.S.C. § 26 Brief description of cause: ADA discrimination and retaliation and FMLA reference in the control of the c	601, et seq.	utes unless diversity):	
VII. REQUESTED IN COMPLAINT:	CHECK IF THIS IS A CLASS ACTIO UNDER RULE 23, F.R.Cv.P.	DEMAND \$	CHECK YES only i JURY DEMAND:	if demanded in complaint: Yes No
VIII. RELATED CASI IF ANY	E(S) (See instructions): JUDGE		DOCKET NUMBER	
DATE		TTORNEY OF RECORD		
Jan 3, 2023	/s/ Mary Kramer			
FOR OFFICE USE ONLY				
RECEIPT # AM	MOUNT APPLYING IFP	JUDGE	MAG. JUD	OGE

Case 2:23-cv-00011-WARFED STOCKHSIDISTRICF ideals 21/03/23 Page 2 of 15 FOR THE EASTERN DISTRICT OF PENNSYLVANIA

DESIGNATION FORM

(to be used by counsel or pro se plaintiff to indicate the category of the case for the purpose of assignment to the appropriate calendar)

Address of Plaintiff: 2204 Yelland Street, Philadelphia, PA 19140						
reduction of Frankers.						
	Address of Defendant: 111 S 11th Street, Philadelphia, PA 19107					
Place of Accident, Incident or Transaction: 111 S 11th Street, Philadelphia, PA 19107						
RELATED CASE, IF ANY:						
Case Number:	Judge:	Date Terminated:				
Civil cases are deemed related when Yes is answered to any of the following questions:						
1. Is this case related to property included in an earlier numbered suit pending or within one year Yes No reviously terminated action in this court?						
2. Does this case involve the same issue of fact or grow out of the same transaction as a prior suit Yes No pending or within one year previously terminated action in this court?						
3. Does this case involve the validity or infringement of a patent already in suit or any earlier numbered case pending or within one year previously terminated action of this court?						
4. Is this case a second or successive habeas corpus, social security appeal, or pro se civil rights Yes No No						
I certify that, to my knowledge, the within case is / is not related to any case now pending or within one year previously terminated action in						
this court except as noted above. Digitally signed by: Mary Kramer						
DATE: 01/03/2023	Must si not reseated 153022-0500 Attorney-at-Law / Pro Se Plaintiff	Attorney I.D. # (if applicable)				
CIVIL: (Place a $$ in one category only)						
A. Federal Question Cases:	B. Diversity Jurisdiction Co					
	·	act and Other Contracts				
 A. Federal Question Cases: 1. Indemnity Contract, Marine Contract, and 2. FELA 3. Jones Act-Personal Injury 	All Other Contracts 1. Insurance Contra 2. Airplane Persona 3. Assault, Defamat	act and Other Contracts al Injury tion				
 A. Federal Question Cases: 1. Indemnity Contract, Marine Contract, and 2. FELA 3. Jones Act-Personal Injury 4. Antitrust 5. Patent 	All Other Contracts 1. Insurance Contracts 2. Airplane Persona 3. Assault, Defamat 4. Marine Personal 5. Motor Vehicle Personal	act and Other Contracts al Injury tion Injury ersonal Injury				
 A. Federal Question Cases: 1. Indemnity Contract, Marine Contract, and 2. FELA 3. Jones Act-Personal Injury 4. Antitrust 5. Patent 6. Labor-Management Relations 	All Other Contracts 1. Insurance Contracts 2. Airplane Personal 3. Assault, Defamat 4. Marine Personal 5. Motor Vehicle Personal In 6. Other Personal In	act and Other Contracts al Injury tion Injury ersonal Injury njury (Please specify):				
A. Federal Question Cases: 1. Indemnity Contract, Marine Contract, and 2. FELA 3. Jones Act-Personal Injury 4. Antitrust 5. Patent 6. Labor-Management Relations 7. Civil Rights 8. Habeas Corpus	All Other Contracts 1. Insurance Contracts 2. Airplane Personal 3. Assault, Defamat 4. Marine Personal 5. Motor Vehicle Personal In 7. Products Liabilit 8. Products Liabilit	act and Other Contracts al Injury tion Injury ersonal Injury njury (Please specify): y y — Asbestos				
A. Federal Question Cases: 1. Indemnity Contract, Marine Contract, and 2. FELA 3. Jones Act-Personal Injury 4. Antitrust 5. Patent 6. Labor-Management Relations ✓ 7. Civil Rights 7. Civil Rights 8. Habeas Corpus 9. Securities Act(s) Cases 10. Social Security Review Cases	All Other Contracts 1. Insurance Contracts 2. Airplane Personal 3. Assault, Defamat 4. Marine Personal 5. Motor Vehicle Personal In 6. Other Personal In 7. Products Liability	act and Other Contracts al Injury tion Injury ersonal Injury njury (Please specify): y y — Asbestos				
A. Federal Question Cases: 1. Indemnity Contract, Marine Contract, and 2. FELA 3. Jones Act-Personal Injury 4. Antitrust 5. Patent 6. Labor-Management Relations 7. Civil Rights 8. Habeas Corpus 9. Securities Act(s) Cases	All Other Contracts 1. Insurance Contracts 2. Airplane Persona 3. Assault, Defamat 4. Marine Personal 5. Motor Vehicle Personal In 7. Products Liability 8. Products Liability 9. All other Diversi	act and Other Contracts al Injury tion Injury ersonal Injury njury (Please specify): y y — Asbestos				
A. Federal Question Cases: 1. Indemnity Contract, Marine Contract, and 2. FELA 3. Jones Act-Personal Injury 4. Antitrust 5. Patent 6. Labor-Management Relations ✓ 7. Civil Rights 7. Civil Rights 8. Habeas Corpus 9. Securities Act(s) Cases 10. Social Security Review Cases 11. All other Federal Question Cases	All Other Contracts 1. Insurance Contracts 2. Airplane Persona 3. Assault, Defamat 4. Marine Personal 5. Motor Vehicle Personal In 7. Products Liability 8. Products Liability 9. All other Diversi	act and Other Contracts al Injury tion Injury ersonal Injury njury (Please specify): y y — Asbestos				
A. Federal Question Cases: 1. Indemnity Contract, Marine Contract, and 2. FELA 3. Jones Act-Personal Injury 4. Antitrust 5. Patent 6. Labor-Management Relations 7. Civil Rights 8. Habeas Corpus 9. Securities Act(s) Cases 10. Social Security Review Cases 11. All other Federal Question Cases (Please specify):	All Other Contracts 1. Insurance Contracts 2. Airplane Personal 3. Assault, Defamat 4. Marine Personal 5. Motor Vehicle Personal Ir 7. Products Liability 8. Products Liability 9. All other Diversity (Please specify): ARBITRATION CERTIFICATION	act and Other Contracts al Injury tion Injury ersonal Injury njury (Please specify): y y - Asbestos ty Cases				
A. Federal Question Cases: 1. Indemnity Contract, Marine Contract, and 2. FELA 3. Jones Act-Personal Injury 4. Antitrust 5. Patent 6. Labor-Management Relations 7. Civil Rights 8. Habeas Corpus 9. Securities Act(s) Cases 10. Social Security Review Cases 11. All other Federal Question Cases (Please specify): (The effect	All Other Contracts 1. Insurance Contracts 2. Airplane Personal 3. Assault, Defamat 4. Marine Personal Insurance Contracts 5. Motor Vehicle Personal Insurance Contracts 6. Other Personal Insurance Contracts 7. Products Liability 8. Products Liability 9. All other Diversity (Please specify):	act and Other Contracts al Injury tion Injury ersonal Injury njury (Please specify): y y - Asbestos ty Cases				
A. Federal Question Cases: 1. Indemnity Contract, Marine Contract, and 2. FELA 3. Jones Act-Personal Injury 4. Antitrust 5. Patent 6. Labor-Management Relations 7. Civil Rights 8. Habeas Corpus 9. Securities Act(s) Cases 10. Social Security Review Cases 11. All other Federal Question Cases (Please specify): (The effect	All Other Contracts 1. Insurance Contracts 2. Airplane Personal 3. Assault, Defamat 4. Marine Personal 5. Motor Vehicle Personal Ir 7. Products Liability 8. Products Liability 9. All other Diversity (Please specify): ARBITRATION CERTIFICATION	act and Other Contracts al Injury tion Injury ersonal Injury njury (Please specify): y y - Asbestos ty Cases				
A. Federal Question Cases: 1. Indemnity Contract, Marine Contract, and 2. FELA 3. Jones Act-Personal Injury 4. Antitrust 5. Patent 6. Labor-Management Relations 7. Civil Rights 8. Habeas Corpus 9. Securities Act(s) Cases 10. Social Security Review Cases 11. All other Federal Question Cases (Please specify): (The effect	All Other Contracts 1. Insurance Contracts 2. Airplane Personal 3. Assault, Defamat 4. Marine Personal In 5. Motor Vehicle Personal In 7. Products Liability 8. Products Liability 9. All other Diversity (Please specify):	act and Other Contracts al Injury tion Injury ersonal Injury njury (Please specify): y y - Asbestos ty Cases				
A. Federal Question Cases: 1. Indemnity Contract, Marine Contract, and FELA 2. FELA 3. Jones Act-Personal Injury 4. Antitrust 5. Patent 6. Labor-Management Relations 7. Civil Rights 8. Habeas Corpus 9. Securities Act(s) Cases 10. Social Security Review Cases 11. All other Federal Question Cases (Please specify): (The effect	All Other Contracts 1. Insurance Contracts 2. Airplane Personal 3. Assault, Defamat 4. Marine Personal 5. Motor Vehicle Personal In 7. Products Liabilit 8. Products Liabilit 9. All other Diversi (Please specify):	act and Other Contracts al Injury tion Injury ersonal Injury njury (Please specify): y y - Asbestos ty Cases				
A. Federal Question Cases: 1. Indemnity Contract, Marine Contract, and FELA 2. FELA 3. Jones Act-Personal Injury 4. Antitrust 5. Patent 6. Labor-Management Relations 7. Civil Rights 8. Habeas Corpus 9. Securities Act(s) Cases 10. Social Security Review Cases 11. All other Federal Question Cases (Please specify): (The effect I, Mary Kramer Pursuant to Local Civil Rule 53.2, § 3(c) (2 exceed the sum of \$150,000.00 exclusive of of \$	All Other Contracts 1. Insurance Contracts 2. Airplane Personal 3. Assault, Defamat 4. Marine Personal 5. Motor Vehicle Personal 7. Products Liability 8. Products Liability 9. All other Diversity 9. All	act and Other Contracts al Injury tion Injury ersonal Injury njury (Please specify): y y - Asbestos ty Cases for arbitration.) amages recoverable in this civil action case				
A. Federal Question Cases: 1. Indemnity Contract, Marine Contract, and 2. FELA 3. Jones Act-Personal Injury 4. Antitrust 5. Patent 6. Labor-Management Relations 7. Civil Rights 8. Habeas Corpus 9. Securities Act(s) Cases 10. Social Security Review Cases 11. All other Federal Question Cases (Please specify): (The effect I, Mary Kramer Pursuant to Local Civil Rule 53.2, § 3(c) (2 exceed the sum of \$150,000.00 exclusive of Relief other than monetary damages is sou	All Other Contracts 1.	act and Other Contracts al Injury tion Injury ersonal Injury njury (Please specify): y y — Asbestos ty Cases for arbitration.)				

IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE EASTERN DISTRICT OF PENNSYLVANIA

SARINA DABNEY 2204 Yelland Street	: : CIV	IL ACTION NO.:
Philadelphia, PA 19140	:	
Plaintiff,	:	
	:	
V.	: <u>JUR</u>	Y TRIAL DEMANDED
	:	
THOMAS JEFFERSON UNIVERSITY	:	
HOSPITAL	:	
111 S 11 th Street	:	
Philadelphia, PA 19107	:	
Defendant.	:	

COMPLAINT - CIVIL ACTION

Plaintiff, Sarina Dabney ("Plaintiff"), by and through her undersigned attorney, for her Complaint against Thomas Jefferson University Hospital ("Defendant"), alleges as follows:

INTRODUCTION

- 1. Plaintiff initiates this action contending Defendant violated Plaintiff's rights protected by the American with Disabilities Act ("ADA"), 42 U.S.C. § 12101, et seq., by terminating Plaintiff because of her disabilities, her past record of impairment, because Defendant regarded Plaintiff as being disabled, and in retaliation for requesting a reasonable accommodation in connection thereto, in violation of the ADA.
- 2. Plaintiff further brings this action to redress violations by Defendant of the Family and Medical Leave Act ("FMLA"), 29 U.S.C. § 2601, et seq., for unlawfully terminating Plaintiff's

¹ Plaintiff intends to amend her Complaint to include a claim under the Philadelphia Fair Practices Ordinance (The "PFPO"), Phila. Code §§ 9-1101, et seq., once her claims have been administratively exhausted with the Philadelphia Commission on Human Relations, which will occur in July 2023. Plaintiff's claims under the PFPO would mirror Plaintiff's ADA claims discussed herein.

employment in retaliation for her attempt to exercise her right to protected medical leave under the FMLA.

PARTIES

- 3. Plaintiff Sarina Dabney is a citizen of the United States and Pennsylvania and currently maintains a residence at 2204 Yelland Street, Philadelphia, PA 19140.
- 4. Defendant Thomas Jefferson University Hospital is a nonprofit corporation organized and existing under the laws of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, with a registered office address and principal place of business located at 111 S 11th Street, Philadelphia, PA 19107.

JURISDICTION AND VENUE

- 5. Paragraphs 1 through 4 are hereby incorporated by reference as though the same were fully set forth at length herein.
- 6. On or about July 28, 2022, Plaintiff filed a Charge of Discrimination with the United States Equal Employment Opportunity Commission ("EEOC"), which was dually filed with the Philadelphia Commission on Human Relations ("PCHR"), thereby satisfying the requirements of 42 U.S.C. § 2000e5(b) and (e). Plaintiff's EEOC charge was docketed as EEOC Charge No. 530-2022-05849. Plaintiff's EEOC charge was filed within one-hundred and eighty (180) days of the unlawful employment practice.
- 7. By correspondence dated November 14, 2022, Plaintiff received a Notice of Right to Sue from the EEOC regarding her Charge, advising her that she had ninety (90) days to file suit against Defendant.
- 8. Plaintiff filed the instant action within the statutory time frame applicable to her claims.

- 9. Plaintiff has therefore exhausted her administrative remedies and has complied with all conditions precedent to maintaining this action.
- 10. This action is authorized and initiated pursuant to the American with Disabilities Act ("ADA"), 42 U.S.C. § 12101, *et seq.*, and the Family and Medical Leave Act ("FMLA"), et seq.
- 11. This Court has jurisdiction over this matter pursuant to 28 U.S.C. §§ 1331 and 1343, as it is a civil rights action arising under the laws of the United States.
- 12. The venue in this district is proper pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1391(b), as the parties reside in this judicial district, doing business herein, and the unlawful practices of which Plaintiff is complaining were committed in this judicial district.

FACTUAL ALLEGATIONS

- 13. Paragraphs 1 through 12 are hereby incorporated by reference as though the same were fully set forth at length herein.
- 14. Plaintiff began her employment with Defendant on or about March 15, 2018, as a Medical Assistant.
- 15. Throughout her time with Defendant, Plaintiff performed her job well, receiving occasional praise, and no justifiable discipline.
- 16. By way of background, in or around 2019, Plaintiff went out on disability for Idiopathic Sleep Disorder and Post Traumatic Stress Disorder ("PTSD").
- 17. As a result of her Idiopathic Sleep Disorder, Plaintiff was dealing with seizure-like symptoms due to exhaustion.

- 18. Notably, Plaintiff's PTSD and Idiopathic Sleep Disorder constitute disabilities within the meaning of the ADA and FMLA in that they substantially impair one or major life activities.
- 19. Plaintiff's aforementioned disability leave lasted six (6) months until she was able to get a better grasp on her disabilities.
- 20. Although Plaintiff's FMLA was exhausted in or around 2019, it renewed every year, and Defendant's 3rd party benefits coordinator, Lincoln Financial, approved nine (9) days of FMLA per month.
- 21. On or about May 10, 2021, Plaintiff received a letter detailing an investigation into one of her supervisor's actions.
- 22. Moreover, it had been brought to Plaintiff's attention that her supervisor had been openly discussing Plaintiff's health issues with her coworkers.
- 23. Specifically, Plaintiff's supervisor shared protected health information about Plaintiff's sleep disorder with her coworkers, thereby subjecting Plaintiff to ridicule.
- 24. Shortly after the investigation was completed, Plaintiff's supervisor was terminated from employment with Defendant.
- 25. Soon after, Kareemah Last Name Unknown ("Kareemah LNU"), took over Defendant's supervisor position.
 - 26. Almost immediately, Kareemah LNU began questioning Plaintiff's FMLA leave.
- 27. Furthermore, Kareemah LNU began asking Plaintiff invasive questions, like how long was she going to have her FMLA leave, how often she intended to use it, and if she really needed it.

- 28. Plaintiff's coworkers shortly followed, particularly because they had their own questions after looking at Plaintiff's medical documents that her previous supervisor had shared with them.
- 29. Subsequently, Plaintiff reported the harassment to Defendant's Human Resources department.
- 30. Rather than investigate the aforementioned employees who were asking questions regarding Plaintiff's medical documents, Human Resources asked Plaintiff for the names of the coworkers that informed Plaintiff that her personal information was being discussed while she was on leave.
- 31. Ultimately, nothing resulted from this investigation, and, upon information and belief, an investigation may not have occurred.
- 32. In addition to her aforementioned comments, Kareemah LNU began writing Plaintiff up any time she was late.
- 33. By way of example, Plaintiff's first write up occurred in or around early November 2021, when Plaintiff showed up one (1) minute late due to her sleep disorder.
- 34. The write ups continued until on or about November 11, 2021, when Plaintiff took a medical leave of absence for her health.
- 35. Plaintiff returned to work in or around January 2022, and was approved for intermittent FMLA shortly thereafter.
- 36. Specifically, Plaintiff's FMLA was approved from on or about March 21, 2022, through on or about October 1, 2022.
- 37. As such, any time Plaintiff called out, her supervisors and Defendant's Human Resources would be immediately notified.

- 38. The aforementioned approval allowed Plaintiff to use her FMLA time as needed.
- 39. On or about April 25, 2022, following her shift, Plaintiff fell asleep and crashed her vehicle while driving home due to her sleep disorder.
- 40. As a result thereof, Plaintiff suffered a concussion, and called out of work for the following three (3) days.
- 41. Upon her return to work, on or about May 2, 2022, Kareemah LNU informed Plaintiff that she had been written up for calling out.
- 42. In response, Plaintiff assured Kareemah LNU that she had provided Defendant with all necessary doctor's notes, but Kareemah LNU insisted she had to be "held accountable" despite being in a car accident.
- 43. It is worth mentioning that Kareemah LNU had this conversation with Plaintiff in front of another nurse and/or coworker.
- 44. After filing a grievance with Defendant's Human Resources, Plaintiff was informed that being written up for using FMLA leave was not a normal policy within Defendant.
- 45. Furthermore, one of Defendant's Human Resources representatives suggested that Plaintiff request an ADA accommodation.
- 46. Immediately thereafter, Plaintiff provided all of the required documents to her doctor, and was given fifteen (15) days to return the completed paperwork.
- 47. On or about May 6, 2022, Plaintiff received an email from Kareemah LNU about her attendance.
- 48. While Kareemah LNU acknowledged that she previously told Plaintiff that her lates and absences would be covered under her FMLA, Kareemah LNU stated that Defendant's Human Resources suggested they stay in her file.

- 49. In other words, despite Kareemah LNU having been apprised of Plaintiff's recent request for accommodation, she advised Plaintiff that her write ups were going to stay in her file following the aforementioned car accident.
 - 50. After reading this email from Kareemah LNU, Plaintiff became very upset.
- 51. Thereafter, Plaintiff emailed Defendant's Human Resources, advising that she was feeling harassed by Kareemah LNU and that she felt suicidal.
- 52. Following Plaintiff's complaint to Defendant's Human Resources, Kareemah LNU tried to intervene, asking Plaintiff to come into her office so they could discuss her email.
 - 53. Understandably, Plaintiff refused to go into Kareemah LNU's office.
- 54. Despite Plaintiff's refusal, Kareemah LNU insisted Plaintiff come into her office, grabbing Plaintiff by the shirt and trying to pull her in.
 - 55. Plaintiff continued to refuse to meet with Kareemah LNU in her office.
- 56. Due to Plaintiff's refusal to meet with Kareemah LNU, the police were eventually called and Plaintiff was told to seek professional help due to what they interpreted to be a mental breakdown, that of which was directly caused by the mistreatment Plaintiff was subjected to by Kareemah LNU.
- 57. Subsequently, Plaintiff admitted herself into a hospital, and while there, Defendant's Human Resources department responded to her email and said they would do an investigation into Kareemah LNU's recent conduct and that she should not return to Defendant until the investigation was over.
- 58. As such, Plaintiff was suspended without pay during the investigation, and was encouraged by Defendant's Human Resources department to apply for short-term-disability.

- 59. Then, on or about May 18, 2022, Plaintiff was abruptly terminated from employment with Defendant.
- 60. The letter Plaintiff received from Defendant stated the investigation had been closed and she was being terminated for causing a "disruption."
- 61. Notably, prior to this letter, Defendant had never mentioned Plaintiff demonstrating any behavioral issues.
- 62. Moreover, the only write ups Plaintiff received were for being late because of her disabilities and for using her approved FMLA time.
- 63. It becomes evident that Defendant was classifying the mental trauma Plaintiff experienced, which resulted from the aforementioned mistreatment by its employees, as a "disruption."
- 64. It should be noted, mental trauma and resultant suicidal ideation are disabilities within the meaning of the ADA and FMLA in that they substantially impair one or more major life activities.
- 65. As such, Defendant refused to engage in the interactive process to determine a reasonable accommodation in connection to Plaintiff's disabilities, in violation of the ADA.
- 66. It is believed and therefore averred Defendant terminated Plaintiff's employment because of her actual and/or perceived disabilities, and in retaliation for her request for an accommodation in connection thereto, in violation of the ADA.
- 67. It is further believed and therefore averred that Defendant terminated Plaintiff's employment because she exercised her right to protected leave to seek and/or received treatment for her serious health condition, in violation of the FMLA.

68. As a result of Defendant's deliberate, willful, malicious, and unlawful actions, Plaintiff has suffered damages, including, but not limited to, loss of employment, promotion benefits, earnings and earnings potential, loss of potential benefits, and other economic damages, and has also suffered mental anguish, emotional pain and suffering, emotional distress, humiliation, and damage to reputation.

COUNT I AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT 42 U.S.C. § 12101, et seq. DISCRIMINATION AND RETALIATION

- 69. Paragraphs 1 through 68 are hereby incorporated by reference as though the same were fully set forth at length herein.
- 70. At all times relevant hereto, Plaintiff was an employee within the meaning of the Americans with Disabilities Act ("ADA"), 42 U.S.C. § 12101, et seq.
- 71. Pursuant to the ADA, Plaintiff is a qualified individual with one or more disabilities.
- 72. Plaintiff's PTSD and Idiopathic Sleep Disorder substantially limited her ability to engage in several major life activities for an extended period of time.
- 73. Defendant was aware of Plaintiff's disabilities and/or regarded Plaintiff as being disabled.
- 74. Despite her disabilities, Plaintiff would have been able to perform the essential functions of her job, with or without a reasonable accommodation.
- 75. By reasons of the foregoing, Defendant, through its agents, officers, servants, and/or employees, has violated the ADA by failing to engage in the interactive process of determining reasonable accommodations for Plaintiff, and by terminating Plaintiff's employment because of her actual and/or perceived disabilities, because Defendant regarded Plaintiff as

disabled, and/or because of Plaintiff's request for reasonable accommodations in connection to her disabilities.

76. As a result of Defendant's deliberate, unlawful, and malicious actions as set forth above, Plaintiff has suffered loss of employment, earnings, raises, other significant economic benefits, emotional pain and suffering, emotional distress, and humiliation.

WHEREFORE, as a result of the unlawful conduct of Defendant, Plaintiff respectfully requests that this Court enter judgment in her favor and against Defendant, and grant her the maximum relief allowed by law, including, but not limited to:

- A. Back wages, front pay, and bonuses in an amount to be determined at trial, but not less than one hundred and fifty thousand dollars (\$150,000.00);
- B. Punitive, compensatory, and/or exemplary damages in an amount to be determined at trial, but sufficient to punish Defendant for its intentional, negligent, willful, wanton, and/or malicious conduct;
- C. Plaintiff's costs, disbursements, and attorney's fees incurred in prosecuting this matter;
 - D. Pre-judgment interest in an appropriate amount;
 - E. Such other and further relief as is just and equitable under the circumstances; and
- F. Any verdict in favor of Plaintiff is to be molded by the Court to maximize the financial recovery available to Plaintiff in light of the caps on certain damages set forth by applicable federal law.

COUNT II FAMILY AND MEDICAL LEAVE ACT 29 U.S.C. § 2601, ET SEQ. RETALIATION

- 77. Paragraphs 1 through 76 are hereby incorporated by reference as if the same were more fully set forth at length herein.
- 78. Defendant employed at least fifty (50) employees within the applicable seventy-five (75) mile radius for each working day in each of twenty (20) or more calendar days in the current or preceding year.
- 79. Plaintiff was an eligible employee under the FMLA and was thus entitled to twelve (12) weeks of unpaid leave and/or intermittent leave to seek treatment for her serious health condition.
- 80. Plaintiff provided adequate notice to Defendant of her need for medical leave by giving notice as soon as she became aware of the need for leave and as soon as was practicable, pursuant to 29 U.S.C. § 2612(e).
- 81. Defendant willfully violated the FMLA by terminating Plaintiff's employment in retaliation for Plaintiff exercising her right to protected FMLA-leave to care for her serious health condition.
 - 82. The aforementioned actions of Defendant constitute retaliation under the FMLA.
- 83. As a result of Defendant's actions, Plaintiff has suffered loss of employment, earnings, raises, and other significant economic benefits.

WHEREFORE, as a result of the unlawful conduct of Defendant, Plaintiff respectfully requests that this Court enter judgment in his favor and against Defendant, and grant him the maximum relief allowed by law, including, but not limited to:

A. Back wages, front pay, and bonuses in an amount to be determined at trial, but not

less than one hundred and fifty thousand dollars (\$150,000.00);

B. Liquidated damages;

C. Plaintiff's costs, disbursements, and attorneys' fees incurred in prosecuting this

action;

D. Pre-judgment interest in an appropriate amount;

E. Such other and further relief as is just and equitable under the circumstances; and

F. Any verdict in favor of Plaintiff is to be molded by the Court to maximize the

financial recovery available to Plaintiff in light of the caps on certain damages set forth by

applicable law.

JURY DEMAND

Plaintiff hereby demands a trial by jury as to all issues so triable.

Respectfully submitted,

MURPHY LAW GROUP, LLC

/s/ Mary Kramer By:

Mary Kramer, Esq.

Eight Penn Center, Suite 2000 1628 John F. Kennedy Blvd.

Philadelphia, PA 19103 Phone: (267) 273-1054

Fax: (215) 525-0210

mkramer@phillyemploymentlawyer.com

Attorney for Plaintiff

Dated: January 3, 2023

DEMAND TO PRESERVE EVIDENCE

The Defendant is hereby demanded to preserve all physical and electronic information pertaining in any way to Plaintiff's employment, to her potential claims and her claims to damages, to any defenses to same, including, but not limited to electronic data storage, employment files, files, memos, job descriptions, text messages, e-mails, spreadsheets, images, cache memory, payroll records, paystubs, time records, timesheets, and any other information and/or data which may be relevant to any claim or defense in this litigation.